

Approved Minutes

Approved November 14, 2012

Faculty Senate Meeting

October 24, 2012

Science Annex Building, Room 329 - New Mexico Highlands University, 3:00 p.m.

1. Call to Order: 3:06 pm

2. Roll Call:

Present: Braun y Harycki, David (School of Education); Burns, Jim (School of Education); Flores, Jayni (School of Education); Gadsden, Gloria (Social & Behavioral Sciences); Hossein Tahani (Computer & Mathematical Sciences); Gonzales, Margaret (*Staff Senate*); Harrington, Julius (School of Social Work); Kempner, Brandon (English & Philosophy); Kent, April (Library); LeRoy, Peter (Exercise & Sport Sciences); Casondra Sobieralski proxy for Loewen, Kerry (School of Business, Media & Technology); Manafy, Abbas (History/Political Science/Language & Culture); Martinez, Edward (Natural Resource Management); Romine, Maureen (Biology & Chemistry); Swim, Charles (School of Business, Business); Emily Williams (School of Education); Williams Susan (Nursing)

Absent:

Gorman, Jane (School of Social Work)
Montoya, Gabrielle (*Student Senate, undergraduate*)
Rowlett, Joseph (*Student Senate, graduate*)
Rivera, Gilbert (VPAA)

3. Approval of Agenda: October 24, 2012. Approved.

4. Approval of Minutes: October 10, 2012. Approved with corrections.

5. Communication from the Administration

1. Dr. Rivera was not in attendance.

6. Communication from the Chair

1. President's Cabinet/Advisory Council Meeting, October 11, 2012
 - i. Senate Reports – Faculty Senate activities; on-campus communications; parking problems; and security problems were discussed.
 - ii. SUB up-date – Makwa filing for bankruptcy; SUB still on track to be completed in December.
 - iii. Emergency Management Plan reviewed.
 - iv. Video – Active Shooter on Campus discussed.
 - v. Weather delay or cancellation policies discussed.

- vi. Board of Regents agenda items reviewed.
- 2. Dean search up-dates:
 - i. School of Education Dean search – There are five finalists. On campus interviews will be later this month, Oct. 29- Nov 2. There will be forums for students and faculty. The forums will be available by ITV. The goal is to have a Dean by January 1.
 - ii. College of Arts and Sciences Dean search – The telephone interviews are done. Mid-November is the goals for on campus interviews. The committee will be meeting this Friday to discuss finalists.
- 3. Meeting with the Faculty Affairs Committee – Non-tenure Track Faculty; grievance procedures; mediation procedures were discussed.
- 4. Ballen and Pino endowments up-dates. Ballen has \$24,342 available for this year and Pino has \$5,214 available. The Ballen endowment call for proposals was sent out. The Pino call for proposal will be out soon.
- 5. Tenure and Promotion Timeline Review. Applications for tenure or promotion must be submitted to the Dean or Chair by January 14-18. The Chair or Dean checks to see if the application is complete. Faculty will be notified of decisions by May 13, 2013.
- 6. There will be a Board of Regents meeting in November. There is not an exact date yet.
- 7. The Academic Integrity policy is with the lawyers. It will probably not be ready for the next Board of Regents meeting.

7. Communication from Academic Affairs

- 1. See attached report.
- 2. The name of the committee was change to the Emergency Preparedness committee. Luna Community College, the City of Las Vegas, and the United World College all have representatives on the committee. Communication of emergencies to the campus community is a key concern.
- 3. Academic Affairs charges from Faculty Senate have been postponed. Length of discussion has been limited to 10 minutes so all topics will be covered during the meeting time.

8. Communication from the Student Senate (reported by Margaret Gonzales)

- 1. The next Student Senate meeting is Nov 4, Kennedy Lounge at 2:00 pm.
- 2. Applications for Student Regent are available from the Dean of Students Office. New term starts in January.
- 3. The Student Senate is planning a time capsule for the opening of the new student center. Students are looking for different entities on campus to contribute material. Staff Senate and Faculty Senate may be asked for help.
- 4. Intermurals have been inactive in recent years. The program was moved over to Athletics from Student Senate. The Student Senate will check with Athletics to see if the program will get running again. Intermurals are paid for by student fees.

9. Communication from the Staff Senate

1. The next meeting of the Staff Senate is Monday, Oct 29 at 10:30 a.m. in Sininger 129.
2. The staff survey has been completed. Data is being compiled.
 - i. Staff is requesting more training. Staff is asking for training that is related to safety and emergencies.
3. President's cabinet – The Staff Senate raised several concerns of both staff and faculty.
 - i. Parking issues – The President said the old parking plan was dropped. It will be looked into.
 - ii. Concerns about security on weekends were also discussed.
 - iii. Lack of response to emails and voicemails from various offices was discussed.
 - iv. Weather closure timeliness was another concern. The university will make sure announcements come out early.
 - v. The issue of flex time was tabled.

10. Old Business

1. Associate Degrees – Jean Hill
 - i. Discussion of NMHU offering Associate of Arts degrees. The discussion was initiated due to changes to the funding formula. This year's formula has not yet been finalized. The governor wants to have degrees awarded be a large part of the formula.
 - ii. Community Colleges can be more responsive to formula changes than the four year schools. This results in more funding going to the two year schools.
 - iii. ENMU and NMHU give very few AA degrees each year. The other two comprehensive universities in New Mexico give many AA degrees each year. NMHU doesn't want to turn into a community college or advertise AA degrees, but NMHU does have students who drop out with 60 credits or so and no degree. Institutional Research identified 708 students from the last 8-10 years who had 60 credit hours and have no degree from here or from anywhere else. These students would benefit from having an AA degree both in the job market and when transferring.
 - iv. An Associate of Arts in General Studies degree is being consider. This type of degree consists of Core Curriculum and electives. This degree is around 64 credits.
 - v. Inviting students back to complete an AA degree could also motivate students to complete Bachelor's degrees at NMHU. NMHU doesn't want to recruit students for the AA program. Focus would be on bachelor's degrees.
 - vi. Faculty is concerned with the value of the degree to students. Dr. Gloria Gadsden said that some faculty members are also concerned about

students stopping after earning an AA degree. Dr. Susan Williams said that in nursing, data shows that students often stop after the associate's degree in nursing. Dr. Jean Hill said this happens more with AA degrees that lead directly to a job. Dr. Hill said the AA in General Studies degree does not lead directly into a job. For some jobs, the AA degree leads to a pay increase. Dr. Brandon Kempner raised the issue of required minors and if the AA degree would be a way out of the requirement. Dr. Edward Martinez mentioned that transfer students can avoid other required classes. Dr. Kempner brought up the issue of the level of courses required for the degree; he said there should be a requirement for a certain amount of 200 level classes required. Lively discussion ensued.

- vii. Faculty should talk to their departments or schools about the Associate's Degree idea and report departmental or school feedback to the senate at the next senate meeting.
 - viii. Dr. Hill asked faculty to also ask their departments or schools if they are interested in certificate programs. Certificate programs have to be tied to specific occupations. Certificate programs can be made up of existing classes from existing degree programs. HED is interested in universities developing them at both the graduate and undergraduate levels.
 - ix. Dr. Hill will put together a for discussion only document on the AA degree.
1. Student Class Evaluations
 - i. Dr. Romine reported on the history of student class evaluations. Provost Chavez approved the online evaluation around 2007-2008 and the evaluations have remained unchanged since. Dr. Carmen Vidal-Lieberman said the content of the evaluation goes back 15 years to a committee she served on then.
 - ii. Dr. Vidal-Lieberman brought up how comments are presented by department chairs for annual evaluation. Dr. LeRoy said this is covered by the contract. Dr. Romine said evaluation concerns should be brought to the association.
 - iii. The evaluation form will be discussed further.
 2. Student Appeals Procedures
 - i. Timeline concerns were discussed. Academic Affairs is working on this concern.

11. New Business:

1. Non-tenure Track Faculty – Faculty Affairs Committee was looking at two documents
 - i. Proposed handbook language from the executive committee.

- ii. The Table of Contents for per-course instructors and adjunct faculty. Dr. Romine will send the draft of this handbook out to the senate.
- iii. Dr. Kempner brought up the issue of the promotion of non-tenure faculty. Dr. Romine said both promotion and evaluation of non-tenure faculty should be looked at.
- iv. Comment and concerns should be sent to Dr. Romine.

12. Committee Reports and Announcements

- 1. None

Adjournment: 4:54 pm